

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 11-21 have been cancelled. New Claims 22-27 have been introduced. All of the new claims are either generic or directed to the elected species of Figure 1.

Briefly, the invention is directed to an armored transparent partition having improved resistance to impact of bullets or other projectiles. To this end, it incorporates a rigid protuberance which extends substantially in the plane of the transparent element of the partition, but beyond the periphery of the transparent element. This protuberance is exemplified, in the elected embodiment, by the metal insert 3 held between the glass sheets 1 and 4, and forming an extension of the adhesive layer 2. As a result, when the partition is placed within a body, the protuberance retains the partition in place, despite impacts from bullets or other projectiles.

The new claims have been written in light of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, which is believed to be moot. In addition, the objection to the drawings is believed to be moot, since the claims no longer recite a fillister or a vehicle cockpit.

Concerning the rejection of Claims 11-17 and 19-21 as being anticipated by the U.S. patent to Littell, Applicant notes that the Examiner there considered the protuberances of Littell to be elements 30, 31, 32 and 38. However, none of these elements of Littell satisfies the requirements of the rigid protuberances defined in all of the claims.

Elements 30, 31, 32 and 38 of Littell all comprise spacer elements in the form of small pegs of cork or silicone bead material provided in order to space the section 11 from the inner wall of the casing 15 (column 12, lines 51-54). Alternatively, the spacer elements may be formed of polyurethane (elements 31) or adhesive sealing tape (element 32).

Claims 22 and 23 recite that the protuberance is a "rigid protuberance" extending

"substantially in the plane of said transparent element." In contrast, the cork, silicone or polyurethane tape spacers in Littell are neither rigid nor do they extend in the plane of the transparent elements 21, 23, 25 or 27.

Claim 24 further recites that the rigid protuberance comprises a metal insert extending between the layers. This is shown in Figure 1 and described at lines 1-4 of page 5 in the specification, and is not taught by Littell.

Claim 25 further recites that the rigid protuberance "forms an extension" of the adhesive layer between two sheets of glass. Claim 25 also recites that the protuberance is a metal insert. Neither of these characteristics hold true for any of the "protuberances" 30-32, 38 of Littell.

Claim 27 is based upon the allowable Claim 18, and further recites the specific arrangement of layers shown in Figure 1.

Applicant therefore respectfully submits that all of the claims define over Littell.

Claims 11-17 and 19-21 were also rejected as being anticipated by the U.S. Patent to Mucaria. The Examiner there considered the glass partitions to be elements 3, 4, 6 and 7, and the adhesive layers to be elements 5 and 8. According to the Examiner, the protuberance is element 18.

Element 18 is in fact a polysulfide sealant (column 2, lines 65-66) covering the edge of the glass unit. It is not rigid, as is recited in Claims 22 and 23, nor does it extend substantially in the plane of the transparent elements 3, 4, 6, 7. Instead, it extends transverse to these elements. The independent Claims 22 and 23 therefore clearly define over this reference.

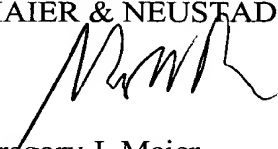
Regarding the dependent claims, the sealant element 18 of Mucaria is not a "metal insert extending between said layer" as is recited in Claim 24, nor does it form an extension

of an adhesive layer, as is recited in Claim 25. Mucaria also lacks any teaching of the specific layer arrangement recited in Claim 27, and in the allowed (cancelled) Claim 18. The claims are therefore believed to clearly define over this reference as well.

Applicant therefore believes that the present application is in a condition for allowance and respectfully solicits an early notice of allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

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